

ing the progressive payouts. These electronic keno stations can be formatted as stand alone stations or linked to other electronic keno stations so as to provide interlinked progressive pools.

As yet another alternative to the present invention, the eighty keno balls can be pre-marked as either "red" or "white" balls prior to the start of each game. This eliminates the necessity of special electronic controls to designate "red" numbers and "white" numbers before each game.

While the preferred embodiment of the present invention uses two designated markings for the keno numbers, it is possible to practice the method of the present invention using as three, four or more designated markings.

While the invention has been illustrated with respect to several specific embodiments thereof, these embodiments should be considered as illustrative rather than limiting. Various modifications and additions may be made and will be apparent to those skilled in the art. Accordingly, the invention should not be limited by the foregoing description, but rather should be defined only by the following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. The method of playing a game of keno comprising:

- a) providing a player with a keno ticket having a plurality of numbered spaces;
- b) providing a plurality of keno balls each having individual numbers corresponding to the numbered spaces on the keno card;
- c) providing an electronic keno number reader board having a plurality of numbered spaces corresponding to the number of keno balls used in the keno game;
- d) a player making a wager to be eligible for the keno game;
- e) the player selecting one or more numbers on his keno ticket to be active numbers during the game;
- f) randomly designating a portion of the numbered spaces on the keno board with at least a first designated marking;
- g) designating the [remaining] numbered spaces on the keno board as a second designated marking;
- h) randomly selecting a predetermined number of keno balls;
- i) if the player achieves a predetermined winning combination on the keno ticket of selected numbers having only the first designated marking, awarding the player a first preselected amount.

2. The method of claim 1 further including if the player achieves a predetermined winning combination on the keno ticket of selected numbers having only the second designated marking, awarding the player a second preselected amount.

3. The method of claim 1 in which if the player achieves a predetermined winning combination on the keno ticket of selected numbers having both the first designated marking and the second designated marking, awarding the player a third preselected amount.

4. The method of claim 1 in which a portion of the wager is allocated to a progressive pool and the player is awarded a predetermined amount of the progressive pool for achieving a predetermined winning combination.

5. The method of claim 1 in which a portion of the wager is allocated to a first progressive pool and the first pre-

a portion of

lected amount is a predetermined amount of the first progressive pool and a portion of the wager is allocated to a second progressive pool and the second preselected amount is a predetermined amount of the second progressive pool.

6. The method of playing a game of keno comprising:

- a) providing a player with a keno ticket having a plurality of numbered spaces;
- b) providing a plurality of keno balls each having individual numbers corresponding to the numbered spaces on the keno ticket;
- c) providing an electronic keno number reader board having a plurality of numbered spaces corresponding to the number of keno balls used in the keno game;
- d) a player making a first wager to be eligible for the keno game;
- e) a player making a second wager to be eligible for a bonus jackpot;
- f) the player selecting one or more numbers on his keno ticket to be active numbers during the game;
- g) randomly designating a portion of the numbered spaces on the keno number reader board with at least a first designated marking;
- h) designating ~~the remaining~~ numbered spaces on the keno number reader board as a second designated marking;
- i) randomly selecting a predetermined number of keno balls;
- j) awarding an amount when the player achieves a regular winning keno combination on the keno card;
- k) designating a portion of the second wager to a first bonus pool;
- l) establishing first predetermined combinations as winning combinations for the first bonus pool; and
- m) awarding a portion of the first bonus pool to the player when he achieves one of the first predetermined winning combinations.

a portion of

7. The method of claim 6 in which at least one of the first predetermined combinations comprises selected numbers having only the first designated marking.

8. The method of claim 6 in which the amount awarded to the player is a flat amount.

9. The method of claim 6 in which the amount awarded to the player is a progressive amount.

10. The method of claim 6 further comprising:

- a) designating a portion of the second wager to a second bonus pool;
- b) establishing second predetermined combinations as winning combinations for the second bonus pool; and
- c) awarding a portion of the second bonus pool to the player when he achieves one of the second predetermined winning combinations.

11. The method of claim 10 in which at least one of the second predetermined combinations comprises selected numbers having only the second designated marking.

12. The method of claim 10 in which the amount awarded to the player is a flat amount.

13. The method of claim 10 in which the amount awarded to the player is a progressive amount.

* * * * *

09877908-060701